Rehabilitation of persons unemployed due to closure of textile units

2419. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons rendered unemployed by closure of textile units;

(b) the number of persons rehabilitated during the past three years; and

(c) the details of schemes implemented for rehabilitation of retrenched workers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) As on 31st October, 2005 there were 3,42,048 workers on the rolls of closed textile mills.

(b) During the last three years, 4621 workers have been paid relief to the extent of Rs. 13.21 crore.

(c) The Government of India has formulated the Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) with effect from 15th September, 1986 to give interim relief to the workers rendered jobless due to permanent closure of the textile mills. Relief under the scheme is available only for three years on a tapering basis-75% of the wage equivalent in the first year, 50% in the second year and 25% in the third year. The mills closed on or after 6.6.1985 are covered under the Scheme. This scheme is not applicable to the State/Central Government Public Sector Undertakings and the textile units in the cooperative fold of the State/Central Government.

Design centre at Madurai

2420. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether design centres have been set up at different locations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such centre is being set up at Madurai;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) and (b) Presently, 25 Weavers' Service Centres (WSCs) are functioning in the country with an objective to develop new designs, product innovations, to render technical assistance and imparting training to the weavers/exporters/designers/manufacturers etc. in the field of designing, weaving and dyeing/printing etc. These Centres are located at Delhi, Merrut, Panipat, Chamoli, Jaipur, Varanasi, Srinagar, Chennai, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Salem, kancheepuram, Kannur, Bangalore, Mumbai, Nagpur, Indore, Raigarh, Ahmedabad, Guwahati, Kolkata, Bhagalpur, Bhubneshwar, Imphal and Agartala.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) In the State of Tamil Nadu, 03 Weavers, Service Centres are functioning at Chennai, Salem and Kancheepuram. Each Centre has it's area of jurisdiction. The technical requirements of the weavers/exporters/designers/manufacturers etc. of Madurai are taken care of by WSC, Chennai.

Adverse effect of Chinese garments

2421. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chinese garments sold in Indian markets have adversely affected the Indian Textile Industry; and

(b) if so, how Government propose to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) and (b) Chinese garments are sold in Indian market at a competitive price as China has certain edge over India in respect of infrastructure, raw material costs, tariff structure, power-rates, etc. However, the import of Chinese garments into the country has posed no considerable threat to the domestic industry as no complaint has been received from the Indan Textile Industry in this regard. India's import of garments from Chira in 2004-05 has actually declined to Rs. 22 crore from Rs. 23 crore in 2003-04.